

## New York Tribune

First to Last—the Truth—Editorials—Advertisements

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## On the Right Road

Bonar Law's victory at the polls was rightfully interpreted as a step toward the tranquillization of Europe. Its soothing effects were evident the morning after election. They are still more evident to-day, for under the new Premier's leadership Great Britain has taken a stand in the London reparations conference which holds out the promise of practical and friendly settlement.

In the first place, Bonar Law has discarded the policy of the Balfour letter. That letter blocked efforts for a purely European solution by dragging in the United States. It predicated British action in scaling war accounts on an American participation, which is at present out of the question. If Great Britain, France, Italy and Belgium, the countries most directly interested in a readjustment, can formulate a plan which will help them, and incidentally write off some of Germany's obligations, the first long step will have been taken toward European recovery. The vicious circle in which reparations discussion has been traveling for three years or more will have been smashed.

"I am prepared to reconsider the question of cancellation of debts," the British Premier said, "if such cancellation would insure a settlement satisfactory to the British government." Great Britain wants to see European commerce revived and Germany enabled to take a larger part in it. This is a pro-British view rather than a pro-German one. But Bonar Law realizes that the British must make a sacrifice to accomplish this end comparable to the sacrifice which France would have to make to accomplish it. If France's war debt to Great Britain is cancelled, the latter country in effect pays a part of Germany's obligation to France. France can therefore consent to a reduction of the German reparations account, to a moratorium and to other measures enabling Germany to re-establish her credit.

What Europe needs and aims at is financial recovery. Her financial system has been deranged more seriously than her economic system. If this recovery can be effected through self-help the better it will be for all concerned. Should the leading European states demonstrate an ability and a willingness to work out their own salvation, suggestions of American aid will find a more receptive hearing. In proportion as Europe takes up her own burden America will be disposed to go to her assistance.

The London conference has a great opportunity. It has made a hopeful beginning, because it is approaching a painful problem in a matter-of-fact way and in a mood of good will and real co-operation. This problem was long bedeviled by diplomatic stage play and personal politics. That way lay failure. It can be solved, however, by common-sense handling and intelligent compromise.

## The Wardenship of the Straits

Ismet Pasha has conceded the main point of the American and Allied contention at Lausanne—that the Black Sea shall not remain a closed sea. It is to be open in peace, and in war when Turkey is not a belligerent, to the merchant ships and warships of all nations. This principle is modified to the extent that war vessels entering the Black Sea shall be light cruisers only. Conversely, the Russian war vessels going out into the Mediterranean must be light cruisers.

This modification saves Russia's face. Titcherford wanted to have Turkey sit as a warden over the Straits as formerly, and keep them sealed, thus insuring Russian naval supremacy in the Euxine. But the interests of the outer world and of the Black Sea states other than Russia will be better served by permitting the entrance of non-Russian naval forces. These will counterbalance the effects of Russian naval pressure on Rumania, Bulgaria, Turkey and the Caucasian republics.

The Turkish Nationalists have always subscribed to the doctrine of the freedom of the Straits. The An-

gora compact pledges such freedom. What the Turks ask is a fair consideration of their military situation. Constantinople is on the open road to and from the Black Sea. Its security, they feel, ought not to be threatened by any preponderant naval power. Ismet is evidently willing to waive a large measure of Turkey's former sovereignty over the Straits if Turkey is left in a position to defend her ancient capital.

Demilitarization rather than internationalization of the Straits is now to be depended upon to secure their freedom. They will remain Turkish, but unfortified. To this extent there is to be a reversion to the pre-war situation. The Allies are reconciled to have Turkey hold the key to the passageway rather than to give it to any other single power or even to plant their own flags on Gallipoli and hold it jointly. The Turk has come back into Europe partly because of his military recovery and his startling victory over Greece. But in a larger sense he has come back because the Allies can find nobody else whom they would prefer to have rule over Constantinople and undertake a limited and benevolent guardianship of the Straits.

## Blind Opposition

The House shipping bill has been reported by the Senate Commerce Committee with amendments, and the Senate will be asked to-day to give it the right of way over other business. Its opponents concede that it will pass if it can be brought to a vote. Whether it passes or not depends on the ruthlessness of the minority groups which at the short session always seek to enforce their will on the majority.

The bill offers a plan for disposing of the government's merchant fleet on the best possible terms, for cutting the huge losses of government ownership and operation and for encouraging private owners to go into the ocean-carrying trade and stay there. It is a measure of rearmament. An extravagant government venture is to be liquidated. A new and better basis is to be found for the maintenance of an American merchant marine.

What alternative to this salvaging scheme do the opponents of the bill have in view? Simply to continue the present losing system of government operation, with deficits piling up, idle ships rapidly depreciating in value and a vast personnel drawing salaries from the Treasury and watching a doomed experiment dragged out to a pitiful finish. Such a policy helps no American interest. It simply aids the foreigner to recover the supremacy on the seas which our war construction challenged.

Government ownership and operation—the government fleet monopoly idea—has failed utterly. Most of those who supported that plan no longer defend it. But they obstinately deny the country a chance to substitute another plan. They would rather keep on throwing good money after bad. Such is the statesmanship of the men who fight the money-saving shipping bill. It is appropriately associated with a threat to prevent majority action by a filibuster.

## Armchair Politicians

Senator Pepper's reproof to the sons of the well-to-do for their lack of interest in politics comes with additional force because Mr. Pepper himself has practiced what he preaches and knows well from personal contacts the truth of his remarks.

The cases are rare of men of independent means who have gone into public service. In the early days of the Republic, when an aristocratic tradition still lingered in this country and when public service was looked upon by men of education and means as a desired goal, it was no uncommon thing for the sons of these men to prepare for politics as a career much as they do to-day for business or for the law. Service to the community and the country was considered not only an honor but a duty. With the advent of Jacksonian democracy, however, the old school dropped out of the race and politics ceased to become an occupation for the sons of the wealthy and the educated.

There have been, of course, notable exceptions in recent times. Theodore Roosevelt was such a one. The late Robert Bacon was another, as are Mr. Pepper himself and Gifford Pinchot. But among the younger men of to-day who have the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of these men only a few seem inclined to do so. Most of them, as Mr. Pepper charges, either have no interest in politics or look upon participation in public life critically or superciliously, as something beneath their dignity. They leave to others the "dirty work" of running for office.

During the war we were surfeited with armchair warriors. They were loud and free in their advice and in their criticism of the conduct of the campaigns. To-day we are suffering from armchair politicians. They are quick and strident in explaining what ails the country. They sometimes contribute to campaign funds. But if you suggest to them active participation in politics they will marshal a staggering array of rea-

sons why they are entitled to exemption. Most of those who complain about the bad state of politics have themselves to blame.

## A Correction from Kansas

Those partisan critics of the Kansas Industrial Court who shouted loudly that its downfall had arrived through the election of a Democrat to the governorship of the state seem to have another guess coming. In that excellent and accurate journal "The Wichita Beacon" appears a review of the entire election that gives the Henry Allen answer to these wish-thinkers. It shows that the court was far from beaten at the polls and is still very much alive.

There was a Democratic Governor, Jonathan Davis, elected—chiefly upon the promise of lower taxes. But, as everybody knows, it is not within a Governor's power to repeal a law. What was the result of the election of the members of the new Legislature that will decide the fate of the Industrial Court? Exactly 133 out of 165 are Republicans, all of whom ran on a platform which pledged unqualified support of the Industrial Court. Just for one detail, the author of the bill, running in a district which included Will White's Emporia, was overwhelmingly elected. For another, the Republican candidate for Attorney General of the state, making his whole campaign upon the issue of law and order and the Industrial Court, and having prosecuted some fifty cases under the anti-picketing provision of the law, was elected by more than twice Davis's majority. Another candidate on the firing line was the present Attorney General, who has for two and a half years seen to the enforcement of the law. He was elected to the Supreme Court of the state by a bumper vote.

Thus there seems ample justification for saying that, so far from wishing to end the Industrial Court, the Kansas voters are still strongly for it. As a matter of plain record it has worked admirably, and is exceedingly popular with both employers and employees. That it recently helped mine coal and run railroads in Kansas when the rest of the country was worried and stricken has not lessened its fame. It remains the most interesting attempt to solve the strike problem justly and fairly that America has produced. Its experiment for the benefit of the rest of the nation seems likely to continue for some time to come.

## A Navy Second to None

Secretary Denby's declaration that the American Navy must be second to none is in keeping with the decisions of the Washington conference. According to the provisions of the 5-5-3 ratio, the American fleet is to be equal to the British fleet and five-thirds the fleet of Japan. This ratio, as the Secretary points out, applies, strictly speaking, only to capital ships and to air-plane carriers. But he believes that it was the intention of the framers of the agreement that it should also apply to the relative total strength of the navies.

The mere fact that we have accepted a maximum limitation upon the size of our navy does not imply that we should for that reason fall below this limit. As a matter of fact it imposes upon us even greater need of keeping the navy up to par than heretofore. To agree to a ratio of strength and then to neglect that ratio while others live up to it is to lose some of the principal advantages of the Washington agreements. It is true that the mere limitation of armaments is in itself a desirable and worthy object. But the Washington conference had practical as well as ideal purposes, and among these was not only to end the race between the great naval powers but also to maintain an equilibrium with Great Britain and Japan.

"The United States," wrote Theodore Roosevelt in his message to Congress in April, 1908, "can hope for a permanent career of peace on only one condition, and that is on condition of building and maintaining a first class navy." He then pointed out how England's navy had saved her from foreign aggression and had made it unnecessary for her to become a great military power.

The Administration's naval policy is sound. But it is up to Congress to make its enactment possible by voting adequate appropriations. A weakened navy ultimately means a more expensive navy.

## Relieving Human Ills

Successful tests of new methods of relieving two heretofore incurable diseases were announced last week. From St. Mark's Hospital came the story of the treatment of a form of gangrene known as Renaud's disease, and from the New York Hospital came the report of a diabetes patient sixteen years old brought to the hospital in a coma and sent home after three weeks' treatment in a greatly improved physical condition.

Owing to the prevalence of diabetes and the difficulty of checking it, especially among young patients, this experiment is particularly encouraging. The use of pancreas extract in the relief of diabetes sufferers has been known for some time, and successful work with it has been reported from Toronto

University, where experiments have been carried out. From there it has been sent for testing purposes to various hospitals in Canada and the United States, and if other cases prove as successful as this one the use of this extract would seem to be one of the most important discoveries of recent years. The announcement from New York Hospital explains that it is not a cure; that it only prevents the disease from becoming more acute and enables the patient to recover much of his strength. Renewed applications are necessary in order to assure the permanence of the good results.

The fact that a disease hitherto considered incurable has been checked, even if only in a few cases, is not only a triumph of medical science but also a new token of the marvelous strides made during the last half century in mastering the ills of the human flesh. The anti-toxins so successfully used in various diseases were important contributions to preventive medicine. The transplanting of portions of living tissue has shown the great possibility for repairing organic defects. But each new and important discovery re-emphasizes the fact that the science of preserving human life is still only in its infancy. Great as are the achievements to date, what still remains to be done is almost limitless.

## Well Earned Prosperity

Without troubling about creeds or racial differences the Salvation Army has calmly proceeded to give aid and comfort and spiritual consolation to the poor and needy, wherever it has found them. A little surprising to most people will be the announcement that in this country it holds more than fifteen million dollars' worth of realty. But its properties and the income it derives from them are devoted to useful and worthy purposes. The soldiers of the army are always going about doing good, and no charge has ever been made that any of them got rich out of his labors. That such an organization has prospered will meet with the entire approval of its millions of well-wishers in America.

## More Truth Than Poetry

By James J. Montague

I am fearful that my beagle,  
That I've loved for years and years  
And still cherish, soon will perish  
From this place of wrath and tears.  
I'll be left a glum and lonely  
And a melancholy man,  
For my beagle bit a Kleagle  
Of the Ku-Klux Klan.

He was playing in the orchard,  
At the setting of the sun,  
When a solemn, sheeted column  
Up the road came on the run,  
And the man who through his mask  
Peered,  
Like an eagle, was a Kleagle  
Of the Ku-Klux Klan.

Playfully the beagle gambled  
To the center of the street,  
Gayly yipping, slyly nipping  
At the long and flowing sheet.  
And oftentimes his teeth were tearing  
At the ankle of the man—  
Luckless beagle—at the Kleagle  
Of the Ku-Klux Klan!

Awful is the Kluxian vengeance;  
Ere another year goes by,  
I am fearful that my cheerful  
Little puppy dog must die.  
Haply, I shall vanish also,  
Ere my years round out their span,  
For my beagle bit a Kleagle  
Of the Ku-Klux Klan.

There is one advantage of being  
A member of the Greek Cabinet.  
They are never pestered by life insurance agents.

Plenty of Material  
What with Cousins and Aunts  
Senate ought to have no trouble  
In making up a foreign relations committee.

The Ounce of Prevention  
About the only way murder can be  
Stopped in New Jersey is by watch-  
ing everybody to see that he does not  
commit it.  
(Copyright by James J. Montague)

## Clothing for the City's Poor

To the Editor of The Tribune:  
Sir: Through the generosity of the public last year the Municipal Lodging House, under the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Welfare, was enabled to fit out with good, warm clothing over 2,000 men, women and children who applied for lodging.

The clothing received by the department was greatly appreciated by the recipients and enabled them to apply for and receive positions which they could not possibly have done in their ragged condition. Thousands of the city's poor will apply during the present winter to the Municipal Lodging House for shelter, food and clothing. The department is ready and able to offer shelter and food to every worthy applicant, but under the provisions of the charter, cannot furnish clothing.

Any reader having clothing of any kind for which he has no further use can help us in this work by sending a postal card to Edward E. McMahon, superintendent, Municipal Lodging House, 432 East Twenty-fifth Street, New York City. Underwear, shoes, stockings, socks, etc